

Answers

By **Billy Graham** (<https://billygraham.org/author/billy-graham/>) • June 1, 2017 • Topics: [Integrity](https://billygraham.org/grow-your-faith/topics/christian-living/integrity/)
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Q:

I know you'd probably say we ought to be honest and always tell the truth, but in my experience no one really gets ahead if they act like that all the time. You have to cut a few corners if you're going to be successful, no matter what the Ten Commandments say.

A:

You've probably looked around you and seen people who appeared to be getting ahead by being less than honest—and in the short term perhaps they were.

But at what cost? In the long term they are on a dead-end road—and so will you be, if you decide to follow their example. You see, eventually what they are doing will catch up with them. People they cheat will eventually realize what has happened—and stop doing business with them or even wanting their friendship. Instead of being liked,

they'll end up being mistrusted and even hated. Do you honestly want this to happen to you? The Bible warns, "One whose heart is corrupt does not prosper; one whose tongue is perverse falls into trouble" (Proverbs 17:20).

But I not only hope you'll become a person of honesty and integrity—important as that is. More than that, I pray you'll stop and reconsider your priority in life. From what you say, right now your only priority is to get ahead and make lots of money. But that will never give you the happiness and peace you seek, as long as you make them the center of your life.

Instead I urge you to turn to Jesus (http://peacewithgod.net?utm_source=bgmainsite&utm_medium=link&utm_campaign=pwg+internal&utm_content=to%20Jesus&outreach=to%20Jesus). Christ and make Him your life's foundation. God made you, and Christ loves you (http://peacewithgod.net?utm_source=bgmainsite&utm_medium=link&utm_campaign=pwg+internal&utm_content=loves%20you&outreach=loves%20you). Don't be deceived by the false promises of wealth and success, but make it your goal to put Christ (http://peacewithgod.net?utm_source=bgmainsite&utm_medium=link&utm_campaign=pwg+internal&utm_content=put%20Christ&outreach=put%20Christ) first and become His follower.

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10 Comments

Reply (<https://billygraham.org/answer/you-wont-find-the-righteous-path-by-cutting-corners/?replytocom=1598577#respond>).

Linda Todd says:

August 3, 2017 at 10:32 pm (<https://billygraham.org/answer/you-wont-find-the-righteous-path-by-cutting-corners/#comment-1598577>).

Nothing the world offers can ever satisfy us, we need that deep close relationship with Jesus. He is the only one that can give us completeness!

Reply (<https://billygraham.org/answer/you-wont-find-the-righteous-path-by-cutting-corners/?replytocom=1592619#respond>).

Becca says:

July 12, 2017 at 9:16 am (<https://billygraham.org/answer/you-wont-find-the-righteous-path-by-cutting-corners/#comment-1592619>).

I have always tried to be honest, be it at work or any other place, even when no one is looking. It seems, though, that no matter what I do or say, something always happens to me or my family that is not good. I.E., my car has been broken down, I cannot afford to get it fixed. I cannot afford some of my medication, so I do without. My husband and I are in financial ruin because I have given too much away to people I love, to

charities, etc. Which I know is my fault. I have even went so far as to help someone get back on their feet, and after they did, they treated me very badly. I don't understand this. I try to make some sense to this, I feel like I must be doing something wrong.

Reply (<https://billygraham.org/answer/you-wont-find-the-righteous-path-by-cutting-corners/?replytocom=1591675#respond>).
Jack Jones says.

July 10, 2017 at 9:45 am (<https://billygraham.org/answer/you-wont-find-the-righteous-path-by-cutting-corners/#comment-1591675>).

Honesty and integrity is good for my heart, and I thank God for His word. Amen

Reply (<https://billygraham.org/answer/you-wont-find-the-righteous-path-by-cutting-corners/?replytocom=1589660#respond>).
Jeannette Jones says.

July 6, 2017 at 11:26 am (<https://billygraham.org/answer/you-wont-find-the-righteous-path-by-cutting-corners/#comment-1589660>).

It has been my experience that if I am honest at my job in everything I do, it works out best for me in the end. It still is not pleasant and sometimes not easy to do, but it really is the BEST thing to do. I have learned to listen to others without interjecting the first thing that comes into my mind. This helps greatly as well. You do not always have to have the last word. You are there to do your job. Listening to what your co-workers say can give them an outlet for their frustration. I am learning to do this and to give encouragement to them as I can. This is different for me. I am not a very social person. But in the spirit of Christ I am focusing on being kind to everyone.

Reply (<https://billygraham.org/answer/you-wont-find-the-righteous-path-by-cutting-corners/?replytocom=1500998#respond>).
Diane Dumaine Martinez says.

October 28, 2016 at 10:08 am (<https://billygraham.org/answer/you-wont-find-the-righteous-path-by-cutting-corners/#comment-1500998>).

Excellent view...it's one that is common n hard to conquer w/o Gods intervention n the more we keep our eyes...as in our minds single eye...upon our Lord the closer we do draw unto Him! All else does follow. So timely for me today!

Thank you!

Reply (<https://billygraham.org/answer/you-wont-find-the-righteous-path-by-cutting-corners/?replytocom=1466353#respond>).
John Lewis says.

August 22, 2016 at 12:25 pm (<https://billygraham.org/answer/you-wont-find-the-righteous-path-by-cutting-corners/#comment-1466353>).

I have come out of retirement because God isn't done with my ministry! I have begun to quote Billy Graham in notes to the congregation. God inspires us through the wisdom that He Blessed Billy Graham with! John Lewis

Reply (<https://billygraham.org/answer/you-wont-find-the-righteous-path-by-cutting-corners/?replytocom=1462885#respond>).
Natalie says.

August 11, 2016 at 10:16 am (<https://billygraham.org/answer/you-wont-find-the-righteous-path-by-cutting-corners/#comment-1462885>).

A fellow Christian has lied, I pointed out her lie, and proved it with others who confirmed the truth of the matter. She still persist in her lie. How do I move past this? I know she and her family love God. But the entire family has wrapped itself up in this lie, and has been snide and mean to my family and has not allowed their daughter to play with mine. The kids did nothing wrong. They are best friends and they're both very upset. I am stifled at such behavior from people who I thought strong Christians, and they're involved in an area of ministry in our church. Please help, Thank you.

BGEA says:

August 11, 2016 at 1:43 pm (<https://billygraham.org/answer/you-wont-find-the-righteous-path-by-cutting-corners/#comment-1462929>).

Hi Natalie,

We can understand why you're upset. Sometimes our pride keeps us from admitting to others that we're wrong, even when we know the truth. We encourage you to be an example to your friend by continually striving to be like Christ. Billy Graham's answer related to your question is below.

[My Answer \(http://billygraham.org/answer/true-christians-seek-to-be-more-like-christ/\)](http://billygraham.org/answer/true-christians-seek-to-be-more-like-christ/)

Reply (<https://billygraham.org/answer/you-wont-find-the-righteous-path-by-cutting-corners/?replytocom=1443700#respond>).

June 12, 2016 at 9:02 am (<https://billygraham.org/answer/you-wont-find-the-righteous-path-by-cutting-corners/#comment-1443700>).

teach me LORD your ways, not my ways. amen.

Reply (<https://billygraham.org/answer/you-wont-find-the-righteous-path-by-cutting-corners/?replytocom=1441523#respond>).

June 1, 2016 at 6:40 pm (<https://billygraham.org/answer/you-wont-find-the-righteous-path-by-cutting-corners/#comment-1441523>).

😊 #God bless you Dr. GRAHAM!:-)

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[The Modesto Manifesto: A Declaration of Biblical Integrity](https://billygraham.org/story/51705/) (<https://billygraham.org/story/51705/>).

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